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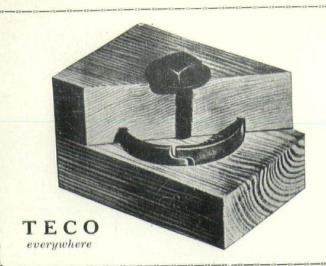


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OHIO ARCHITECT -- Second Quarter, 1913



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Plan Now!

PLAN NOW! Some optimists place the end of the great war a few months away—we all hope that they are correct. But are we ready? We learn from every trade journal and syndicated columnist that there will be a great upheaval in post-war building—new gadgets by the score; new products and new processes which will render the 1940 structure as obsolete as the 1890 vintage buildings which line our prominent streets today. But they do not tell you of the time lag necessary to switch from a high-geared war activity to peace-time pursuits. They do not stress the fact that your next car will probably be a 1942 model from the same tools and dies; that your 194? mechanical refrigerator will be the same as before Pearl Harbor.

We can not wait for "X" day, after the victory celebrations, to start our Post-War Planning. Every architect has in his office projects for the immediate post-war period, only waiting, we hope, the lifting of priority control and abolishment of the C.M.P., and these projects should be "ready to go" immediately. The construction industry will be expecting them.

The dislocation of employment will be great—no matter how gradual the release may be from Armed Forces and industry. The building industry, with its tremendous backlog, will be expected to absorb a large part of the unemployment. This cannot be done if we delay our planning until these nebulous new products are available or until after Victory.

PLAN NOW! Plan with the customary materials of construction. Convince your clients of the folly of delay. Every architect should use his ability to push these delayed projects ahead as rapidly

as possible—final plans, specifications, quantity surveys, cost estimates. Get ready to go!

If private construction — and that means we architects—does not do its part to take up the slack, then we can look for more Federal Bureau planning, more Federal and State projects, to provide the construction employment that we should provide. The gauntlet has already been thrown to us. Shall we meet the challenge? Can we be ready with our Post-War Ready-to-Go projects?

During the war, architects have bemoaned the lack of recognition afforded them by their Government; they have been called visionary, dreamers, artists and less pleasant things. The immediate future offers unexcelled opportunities to refute these and many other allegations and recapture that dominant position in the field of construction which so rightly belongs to the architect. To regain our place in the sun, we must demonstrate our ability to think right, our foresight and our ability as planners-NOW-not by just dreaming or just hoping but by the actual planning and preparation of working drawings and specifications and doing now the many other essential things required of the architect in today's planning for tomorrow's buildings.

The advantages of planning now are many and not the least of these are the possibilities for savings for our clients, who will profit by the many economies afforded by the unhurried study of their projects, the painstaking analysis of every factor and problem and the early availability of their plans to the bidders.

PLAN NOW for early bids, early contracts and early construction.

RALPH W. CARNAHAN, President, Architects Society of Ohio.

Now Quarterly

The publication schedule of the OHIO ARCHI-TECT for 1943 has been reduced to quarterly issues. The first quarter was sponsored by the Cincinnati Section and was designated the Special A.I.A. Annual Meeting number. second quarterly or post-A.I.A. Annual Meeting number will be under the guidance of the Dayton Section. The third quarterly issue will probably be sponsored as the Columbus Section issue, as it will be the pre-Annual Meeting of the Architects Society of Ohio issue. This meeting is tentatively set to be held early in October and will be devoted to Post-War Planning. The fourth quarterly issue will carry the Annual Meeting reports and will include the Annual Roster.

ASHTON HEADS A.I.A.—

Elected at 75th Annual Meeting in Cincinnati

Raymond J. Ashton, of Salt Lake City, Utah, was named president of the American Institute of Architects at the closing session of its 75th annual meeting, in the Netherland Plaza Hotel, Cincinnati, May 28th. Unopposed for the office, he succeeds Richmond H. Sreve, of New York.

Walter R. MacCornack was re-elected vice-president, Alexander C. Robinson III., of Cleveland, was elected secretary, and James R. Edmunds, of Baltimore, treasurer.

Good Publicity

Of course, Walter MacCornack's subject of Post-War Reconstruction was the convention. He did a marvelous job and great credit resulted to the architectural profession. There was a good press and the architects were placed in the best possible light. Local papers daily carried comprehensive statements, and on May 27th the Cincinnati Enquirer carried an editorial on "City Planning" inspired by statements at the convention. An outstanding example of good publicity was Architectural Forum's full page ad in the Enquirer of May 26th, "The New Frontier is Right Where You Live," presenting planning in its proper light. This page also appeared in New York papers. Cincinnati papers were most co-operative, indicating a thorough job of ground work by John Becker and his local committee. And, as Royal Barry Wills says in the current Pencil Points, we need one in every community.

Honors and Fellowships

The Producers' Council, meeting concurrently, received unusually good press notices because of the importance of their subject matter. Their new officers are:

Douglas Whittlock, president; Russell T. Tree, vice-president; Gordon C. Hay, vice-president; C. W. Stuart, secretary; Irving W. Clark, treasurer. New directors include: G. M. Fletcher, C. W. Kraft, E. J. Gossett, L. C. Hart, W. V. Peters, J. J. March, F. A. Sanson and North Wright. Two carry-over directors are George J. Haas and J. L. Kretzmer.

Fellowships in the American Institute of Architects were awarded to Lemuel C. Dillenback, Frederick G. Frost, Arthur C. Holden, Leigh Hunt, Sylvanus B. Marston, Hugh Martin, C. Julian Oberwarth, Richard Shaw, Thomas Mott Shaw, Francis Palmer Smith, Erle Gulick Stillwell and Edgar I. Williams.

Certificates of Honorary and Honorary Corresponding Memberships went to Richard F. Back, I. T. Frary, and Carlos Contreras.

Concerning plans for a new publication the report of the Board stated:

"The Board recognizes that the Institute should have a monthly publication which would be a more effective instrument of expression than is possible within the limitations of the annual appropriations heretofore made. The present Octagon was established in 1929 as a bulletin of the Institute to transmit official notices to members, to activities of the Board and of the committees, and in other ways to advise on the activities of the organization. It has followed that line to the present time.

"To develop ways and means of changing The Octagon into a vital professional publication which will be of personal interest and practical value to every practicing architect, the Board has authorized the engagement of a prospective editor, to make a survey of the requirements, such survey to cover a complete setup and budget costs for expanding The Octagon and publishing it monthly under the management of a permanent editor who would be in full control of the publication on a full-time basis, but under the direction of the Board.

"The Board is aware that a publication of this type must be subsidized by the Institute, if the project is found to be justified by the proposed survey.

"In order to remove possible handicaps in a study of this matter, the present Rule of the Board which provides that no advertising shall appear in The Octagon has been repealed and the Board has adopted a new Rule to the effect that advertising may be accepted by the Institute, to appear in The Octagon or other publications, with the reservation that any such advertising must remain under the control and supervision of the Board as to its sources, character, and quantity."

On the subject of unification the Board had the following report:

"The purpose to unify the members of the profession throughout the nation has had wider and more effective support in the past year on the part of all types of professional organizations. It is more generally accepted as a necessary step to enable the architects to meet changed conditions related to their practice, and to assure adequate representation.

"Unification by combining existing organizations is to be considered in comparison with the creation of a profession united through corporate membership in the Institute.

"After reviewing the advances already made and the principles which should be established for greatest strength, it is the judgement of the Board:

- "(1) That we continue the present policy of encouraging state associations and their affiliation with the American Institute of Architects, including their representation in Institute affairs through delegates to the annual meeting and through the State Association Director;
- "(2) That we continue our efforts to bring into corporate membership of the American Institute of Architects all qualified architects of good character in the United States;
- "(3) That the ideal of unification is that the American Institute of Architects be the national organization of all qualified architects of good character in the United States, formed into State associations consisting of one or more chapters of corporate members of the Institute.

"Where only one chapter exists, it shall function as the State association.

"There is active discussion of this ideal throughout the nation supported by professional groups endeavoring to find means of bringing about local cooperation which will approach this ideal.

"Paralleling this spirit of assembling the elements of our strength through combination is the steady growth of our numbers through corporate membership. Under the able leadership of Mr. A. C. Robinson III., chairman of the Membership Committee, and through chapter

Seen at the Producers Council Annual Meeting Held in Cincinnati May 26th



This photo shows some of the speakers at Producers' Council banquet, Cincinnati, May 26th. Left to right: Mayor James G. Stewart, Cincinnati, Russell G. Creviston. Chicago, general chairman of the Post-War Committee of the Council and a member of the Advisory Board of the Committee for Ecolomic Development; F. J. Plimpton, New York, of the Vermont Marble Company, and retiring president of the Council; William B. Benton, vice-president of the University of Chicago, vice-chairman of the Committee for Economic Development; George B. Crabbs, chairman of the Annual Banquet Meeting Sponsoring Committee, and president of the Philip Carey Mfg. Co.; Stuart Crocker, New York, vice-president of the General Electric Co. and chairman of the Advisory Board of The Producers' Council. The two men standing in the background are J. W. Follin, Washington, managing director of the Producers' Council, and Charles Young of the Cincinnati Gas & Electric Co., secretary-treasurer of the Producers' Council of Cincinnati

activity in many areas, corporate membership has increased to a total of 3,768, a number greater than ever before in the Institute's history. The number affiliated with the Institute through State associations brings this total strength to 6,143. In noting this most gratifying condition the Board desires again to acknowledge the splendid devotion to this work of C. Julian Oberwarth, of the Kentucky Chapter, who for years has given his time and strength to the advancement of the purposes and standards of the Institute. It is greatly regretted that Mr. Oberwarth has found it necessary to resign from the directorship of the Great Lakes District."

Recognizing that several States are working on proposed plans of unification, the convention authorized the Board to appoint a special committee to study and report on a plan that would be applicable to all States.

The New President

Mr. Ashton, a member of the American Institute of Architects since 1929 and a fellow since 1940, has been serving as treasurer for the past year and also as a member of the committee on State and municipal works, the committee on post-war reconstruction, and the committee on institute investments.

He is widely known in the intermountain area has served both as president and secretary of the Utah chapter as director of the western mountain district of A.I.A. He has attended national conventions of the architects' organizations annually for 12 years.

Two of the major war construction projects in Utah recently were completed under supervision of Ashton, Evans and Hodgson, of which Mr. Ashton is partner. These are the \$32,000,-000 Navy supply depot at Cleveland and the \$8,000,000 Bushnell General Hospital at Brigham City.

Mr. Ashton's organization was in charge of design and construction of the Navy supply depot, complete with its roads, electrical work, distribution system, sewers and other details, in cooperation with a San Francisco firm, Blanchard & Maher, and Clyde C. Kennedy. Ashton, Evons & Hodgson were the sole architect-engineers for the Bushnell General Hospital.

The partnership of Ashton & Evans, of which Mr. Ashton is a member, also has designed and supervised construction of other notable buildings in recent years, including the Mountain States Telephone & Telegraph Company building at Salt Lake City, the George Thomas Memorial Building at the University of Utah and the \$450,000 University of Utah Union Building.

Mr. Ashton studied at the University of Utah, and then began work in Salt Lake City in 1907 as an architectural draftsman. He later worked in Chicago and studied architecture at Ecole de Beaux Arts, Atelier Puckey.

(Continued on page 12)



H. E. REUTHER

Dayton, the birthplace of the world's first lighter than air flying machine and the home of Wilbur and Orville Wright, the inventors of this craft, gazes with mingled emotion upon the progress made in aircraft construction during the last quarter century. Rightfully, Dayton is and should be the center of experimentation and development of this far-flung industry, whose ships are playing such a vital part in our country's fight to protect free peoples all over the world.

Wilbur Wright Field, now Patterson Field, the first sign of the great expanse of acreage to be devoted to the testing, housing and advancement of airplanes in the Dayton area, was established by the United States Government on a strip of ground near the Village of Fairfield shortly after the nation's entrance into World War I, in 1917. World War I saw the introduction of the airplane as a weapon At first it was merely a of war. nuisance; later it was valuable for observation purposes; and, by the war's end, it had developed into a fairly po-The function of this tent weapon. field was to train army personnel in the art of flying. To train this personnel required planes, and to have successful planes required constant experimentation. This idea of experimentation broadened into another phase of Army Air Corps activity in Dayton, and an experimental station was established practically within the confines of the city itself, being known as Mc-Cook Field.

ARCHITECTS IN ARMY AIR CORPS CONSTRUCTION

By

H. E. Reuther, President
Dayton Section

Architects Society of Ohio

Several years after the cessation of hostilities, the hurriedly constructed buildings in both Wilbur Wright Field and McCook Field became sadly inadequate, and Dayton was destined to lose her prominence and pride in being the center of Army Air Corps experimentation for the nation, as the fields were to be moved elsewhere. However, through the efforts of Mr. John H. Patterson, President of the National Cash Register Company and Dayton's most civic-minded citizen, whose work, upon his death, was carried forward by his son, Frederick, together with a group of other influential and publicspirited citizens of Dayton, the Government of the United States was prevailed upon to retain within this area the experimental work of the Army Air Corps, which is such a beehive of activity at Wright and Patterson Fields east of the city. For several years, it was contemplated that the command of all Army Air Corps activities within the United States and its territories should be centered in Dayton, and today the Air Service Command, housed in its own buildings midway between Wright and Patterson Fields, is yet another tribute to the farsighted and courageous effort of the Wright Brothers.

As Dayton beams with pride and glories in the development and expansion of the Army Air Corps program at these Fields, together with the expansion of the Dayton Airport facilities to include the Modification Center, the architectural profession reflects, with satisfaction, upon the positions of trust and confidence that have been and are so ably handled by architects in the construction program necessary to the expansion of the Air Fields.

While experimental work in connection with the Air Corps has been constantly in progress in this area, only the threat and event of another great world war was necessary to speed the expansion program and swell it to unprecedented proportions.

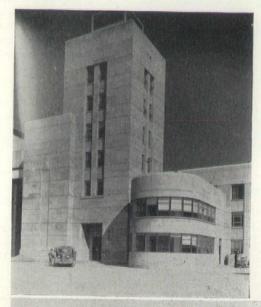
The speed and accuracy with which this program was able to progress depended upon the construction of proper facilities and experimental laboratories. This construction program was entrusted to the District Office of the United States Engineering Corps which was established at Wright Field in June of 1941. The office is under the command of Colonel Edwin C. Landberg, who is himself an architect of many years' standing, having conducted his practice within the State of Kentucky and in Cincinnati, Ohio. Colonel Landberg is ably assisted by a corps of civilian assistants whose background likewise has been in the realm of the architectural and engineering professions.

The problems which confronted the Corps of Engineers on the assignment in the Dayton area were of a nature outside the scope of their past experience and successful development. Thus, the architect was called in to aid in the planning of the permanent type of building which was to be erected.

Capable and experienced men of the architectural and engineering professions were hurriedly brought to Wright Field to get this vital defense program of building under way. The varied purposes for which the buildings and laboratories had to be designed according to the requirements set forth by the Army Air Corps presented a

(Continued on page 16)

Newly Constructed Air Service Buildings At Wright and Patterson Fields Have Brought Monolithic Concrete Into Full Bloom



Wright and Patterson Fields, near Dayton, Ohio, have brought functional architecture and monolithic concrete into full bloom. We are sorry, we are at war, and we cannot reveal the function and interesting story connected with each of these structures.

To Col. Edwin C.Landberg (right), U. S. Engineers Corps, and the group of civilian architects and engineers under his command, goes due credit for the successful achievements of these structures which are playing such a vital role in our war effort.











RAMBLING THOUGHTS

On Post-War Planning and Other Matters

by WILLIAM LESCAZE, Architect

I don't know why friend Carnahan was so anxious to get me to write. I had no sooner gone through the portals of the Netherland-Plaza-that fabulous undertaker's dream of a hotelwhen he pounced on me. And I know less why I accepted, except, perhaps, that my resistance happened to be low. I was feeling blue, and I had come to the AIA Annual Meeting as one goes to White Sulphur Springs for a cure. I longed to be nursed back to architectural health; I was not going to get up on the floor, every architect was to become my friend; I would have a good time and a lot of drinks. as a result, I would return home refreshed and fortified by friendships and by the spectacle of a strong and unified profession, knowing where it stood and where it was going.

* * * *

Yes, there were a few momorable moments when new friendships were begun. I'll come to these later. Carnahan was quite determined that I should write about post-war planning. I wish we would call it something else, perhaps "Victory Planning" or "Planning Now." Too many people mistake post-war planning for something which might just as well be done after the That's not it, not at all. war. has to be done now. Of course, we architects know quite well from our own experience that in the cases of many of the buildings for which we have prepared plans, it is not the actual physical preparation of the plans which required the greatest amount of time, but rather the process of obtaining the information from which to draw plans, then getting that information into order. We have often spent ten months at obtaining such information and at dozens of other related things, while the making of the plans took only four months. And if this has been true for individual buildings, we can safely prophesy that it will be still much more so for planning groups of buildings and communities, and re-planning our cities. So many more factors, so many more interests, are bound to affect these new and larger problems, and, therefore, so much more informa-

tion will be necessary of a so very much more diversified kind, and so much more time to obtain it and to understand it properly than when only one building had to be designed. Therefore, the imperative need for immediate action now.

I believe it was Walter Blucher, executive director of the American Society of Planning Officials, who said not long ago: "Stop talking, and plan now for after the war." How right! Planning should have started way back in 1941, if not before, in 1939. we should all be in the middle of it right now. Are we? Come to think of it, how was it possible for the authors of the U.S. to organize an effective Writers' War Board, which, incidentally, gave employment at one time or another to some 2,000 authors, a Board which now has an unofficial but quite real connection with the OWI, while the architects of the same U. S. -need I continue?

Or something else: Our British colleagues have finally obtained recognition by their Army; any RIBA member between the proper age limits is automatically entitled to a commission in their technical corps. (I think that's correct.) Well, what about the AIA getting that kind of recognition for its members by our armed forces?



WILLIAM LESCAZE

We architects do a powerful lot of talking. And we are still doing that, Granted some and not much more. talking is necessary and healthy. It does us a great deal of good; we learn to see more clearly through both listening and talking among ourselves about the problems of post-war planning. And then, also, by that talking we might open some other people's eyes. Captain Albert Mayer, a friend and an architect with Army experience, told us during a visit East how little had been done to stimulate intelligent discussion among our soldiers. How about doing something about it, AIA?

Let us not forget that planning can not be done in a vacuum any more than architecture can. You have to have with you a strong public opinion. It's not enough for us alone to know that planning is good and makes sense. Thousands and thousands of others must believe in it, must want it badly enough to demand it, to even clamor for it. (Again one field where our AIA might do a little bit of positive spade work. Stop claiming that we are leaders and start acting like leaders. General information, general education cannot be done by single members, should be done by headquarters.)

There probably isn't much to be gained by blaming our professional organizations, our lack of leadership or our lack of unity for our present fate. Never mind our own personal fate.

I am very much more deeply concerned with the fate of those men who have elected or have been chosen to fight this war, and with the fate of those who are forging their weapons. Somehow I feel that most of them are doing so—the risking all, the bleeding, and the hard work—not without any purpose and any goal, but in order to make life, not just a bit more bearable, but rather infinitely more worthwhile for themselves and for all the peoples of the world.

But how is life to be made fuller, richer, unless it is planned to become so? Life can always be what we make it. We need not apologize for giving thought to post-war planning. On the contrary. Were we to neglect to do so we would fail our comrades-in-arms and betray the trust which they have placed in us.

Have we not all seen that Associated Press photograph which shows a soldier of the British Eighth Army reading, in the little bit of shade under the chassis of a transport truck. The title of the book he reads is "Plans for a Better World," by Smuts. Thus, on the deserts and oceans of the world the future of nations is being made. Not only with tommy-guns and tanks, but with thoughts, the thoughts of hundreds of thousands.

I am trying to imagine what these men might want when they return to their homes. (By the way, isn't it curious, or did I miss it, that no one at our AIA meeting seemed to have offered a resolution sending greetings to our members in the armed forces? Another thing, couldn't we, in each Chapter, establish some kind of contact with our comrades, using the simple means of a monthly circular letter or several? Is it not important that we know what they think? What is in your mind, Lieutenant Prentice? What is in yours, Captain Hatch?) I am trying to find what it is which we might do for them while they are away. I asked one of them as he was putting on his uniform. He said, "Don't let it slide back; we count on fellows like you to keep it from getting more messy than it is, so that we don't have to start again from the bottom when we get back." I know what he means. All right, Max, good luck to you. We'll do our level best, but, what a struggle!

One afternoon my secretary rang and inquired: "Have you time to see a British sergeant who has dropped in?" My God, yes. And out of the great unknown in walked RAF Sergeant Wedd. So young—23 years. Had been flying for quite some time. Before that he had not had any particular interest in buildings. Now he is terribly keen to learn about them. He was walking by, and did I mind he couldn't resist looking in? Did I mind? Of course not. And from that half-hour spent with him it was I who got renewed faith, stronger hopes.

That's one of the grand things of life. These fellows come to you for advice and encouragement, and before you know it, it's you who have been invigorated, strengthened.

It's simple enough: all these men want one and the same thing—a world which makes sense—a practicable, sensible, orderly world. And they see no reason at all why they couldn't get it this time. None of them claims that the world owes him a living. But work—yes. No fooling about that. Real, honest-to-goodness work, and work for all. They

won't stand for any absurd scarcity of jobs—not in a country with a national income of 120 billions. They won't accept the humiliation of knocking at one door after another, nor the vague promise of "come back in a couple of weeks," nor hunger.

Don't make any mistake about 't; planning now for when the war ends is not a sweet little racket to get jobs for architects. Hell, no! But it's one means—an important one—among several others (all of them will probably have to be used) which must be made ready in order to maintain full employment in our country. And full employment we must have. Need I say why?

No one seriously questions our cities' crying need for re-hauling. Bankers, real-estate men, politicians, all agree. One wonders at times how it happened that that need was not perceived 25 years ago. It could have been then, you know, just as well as today. But that doesn't matter now; the main thing is the unanimous agreement finally reached and a growing will to do something about our cities' plight. If I mention that we might have diagnosed earlier a malady which we seem at last anxious to cure, it is only to point out that the impelling force which is ariving us now (and it is important that we, as architects, should be aware of it) is not sudden and belated enlighteement, but rather growing anxiety about our ability to create the 56,000.000 jobs (the figure is from the Committee for Economic Development) which may be necessary in order to obtain a high level of employment, i.e., the happiness, the welfare of all our people. Finally, I am getting to what I have wanted to say for a long time: don't you see, it's people who count, men, women and children who matter, their lives and livelihoods, not bricks and mortar. Don't you see. it's a thousand times (if we go at it rightly, if we do it rightly) more thrilling than anything you and I ever did. Gentlemen, I call that a very high form of service to our great country, and if the profession renders it well, that service may truly be of everlasting value.

* * * *

I've never been able to see architecture divorced from people, nor architecture divorced from planning. Maybe I was lucky, but that's the way it was taught to me: (1) people, (2) planning, (3) architecture. Surely it does

not require a tour de force for an architect to become a planner. a natural. You know it as well as I It does require, however, a willingness to learn from others, experts in the many related fields, and an ability to work with others. Teamwork is the pass-word. Last winter several of us attended discussions on the problem of urbanism at Columbia University. Good teamwork on the part of both those who arranged and those who attended them made half of their success. I was delighted to find Jerrold Loebl at the AIA meeting so anxious to hear about them. We have since sent him all the information we had and now I hear that similar discussions will take place in Chicago soon. Teamwork again makes all the difference in the world in the studies of parts of New York which a few of us are in the process of preparing with the civic Design Committee of our Chapter. But teamwork, also, with planning and housing officials should be sought. What Years ago we are we waiting for? suggested that our meetings be held jointly with them. If the members of the American Institute of Planners and the members of the National Association of Housing Officials can get together for meetings, as they did recently, and these were lively meetings-then why can't the AIA, with the two of them and others?

I promised I would list some of the, for me, memorable moments of the Cincinnati meeting. First of all, the warm greeting from Al Shaw, whom I had never met before; the talk with Loebl and Yost (Chicago); the drinks with Tim Pfluger (San Francisco); seeing Eddie Horley (Pittsburgh) again after twenty-three years, he and I having been in the same Cleveland office when we were much, much younger; a few words with Segoe (Cincinnati), with Roy Larson (Philadelphia); the healthy impatience of Spalding (Los Angeles); the hopeful promise implicit in our new president's statement that he had never been able to walk in somebody else's footsteps (it's not an exact quotation); the unforgettable discussion with John Harbeson (Philadelphia), Pietro Belluchi (Portland), Bi'l Bain (Seattle), until two-thirty in the morning (Good Pietro, it was he, I think, who met me in the elevator feeling pretty miserable, ready to go to bed, and took me into the inimitable

* * * *

(Continued on page 19)

DELEGATES AND VISITORS AT THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING— AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS CONVENTION

CINCINNATI, OHIO





MAY 26-27-28 1943

See next page for names













- 12 Mr., and Mrs. Carl C. Britsch—Toledo Mr. and Mrs. Chas. E. Firestone— Canton
- 13 Mrs. George C. Walters—Cleveland Mr. Edward G. Conrad—Cleveland Capt. Travis G. Walsh— Cleveland and Dayton

Mr. Chas. F. Cellarius—Cincinnati Miss Kathryn M. Streit—Cincinnati Mr. George C. Walters—Cleveland

18 Mr. and Mrs. John W. Becker and Mr. and Mrs. Walter L. Rapp —Cincinnati

Mr. George Siegenthaler-Dayton

- 6 Mr. Henry E. Reuther—Dayton
 - Mr. Max G. Mercer—Yellow Springs
 - Mr. William G. Ward-Dayton
 - Mr. W. Frank Jensen-Dayton
 - Mr. Branson V. Gamber-Detroit
- 21 Mr. and Mrs. Ralph W. Carnahan— Dayton
- 10 Mrs. Harold H. Munger—Toledo Mr. and Mrs. G. Otis Reeves— Steubenville

Mr. Harold H. Munger-Toledo

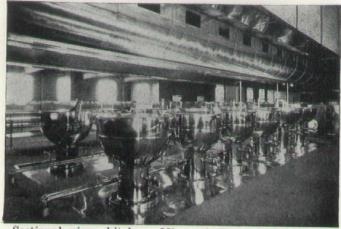
- 9 Mr. Efflo E. Eggert—Columbus Mr. Raymond D. Goller—Columbus
 - Mr. Ossian P. Ward-Louisville
 - Mr. and Mrs. Howard D. Smith—Columbus
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 Reeves, Chas. E. Firestone, Mr. and
 Mrs. Harold H. Munger, Mrs. R. W.
 Carnahan, G. Otis Reeves, Mrs.
 Chas. E. Firestone.

Additional pictures taken at the reception will be published in the next issue of the "Ohio Architect.' Extra prints of any of these prints may be obtained from the "Ohio Architect" for 60 cents each, which includes the mailing charges. Order by the numbers shown.

Elected President Society of Architectural Examiners

Charles E. Firestone, of Canton, was elected president of the Society of Architectural Examiners at its meeting held in Cincinnati in connection with the Seventy-fifth Annual Meeting of the AIA. He is serving his first term as a member of the State Board of Examiners of Architects, and is secretary of the Board for 1943.

ARCHITECTURAL POST-WAR PLANNERS AGREE
THERE CAN BE NO SUBSTITUTION FOR DEPENDABILITY
WHEN PLANNING FOR POST-WAR BUILDINGS



Sectional view, kitchen, Missouri State Penitentiary Alonzo H. Gentry, Voskamp & Neville, Architects

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CINCINNATI, OHIO

Secretary "Alex" on the Job

Architects are today presented with a rare opportunity for service to their communities and to the country. This opportunity is the result of the stoppage of all normal construction; they have a period—and not too long a one—in which to re-evaluate the experiences of the past—re-orient themselves to the developments in planning and construction of the present—and rehabilitate themselves and their communities for the future.

Architects, despite all popular ideas to the contrary, are fundamentally planners. It is the ability to grasp the essentials of a problem and arrange them in an orderly and economically useful way that is our most important contribution to successful design.

Our particular opportunity at this time lies in the field of post-war planning. The recent convention of the American Institute of Architects at Cincinnati placed proper emphasis on this fact; and those of you who have not read the Post-war Committee's report—"We Will Build Again" as published in "The Octagon"—have overlooked the statement of a most stimulating program.

As architects, each in our own community, we should at once get behind every properly co-ordinated movement for post-war planning; contributing our training and advice to the organization of such programs. We should emphasize the fact that proper funds should be made available for all such planning, that competent personnel is available for this work, and that this golden opportunity for planning for future building must not be lost.

There is a real danger, if we do not plan for our own communities according to their individual needs as we as citizens know them, that outside advice and even orders will be given for the solutions to these problems. Our planning should be accepted and established ahead of these standard directions that are most apt to accompany the grants of money that, in all probability, will be forthcoming for this post-war construction.

The American Institute of Architects, by its ever-increasing membership and encouragement of the unification of the profession, will become a more powerful factor in this post-war era, and the future that is beyond. It is thoroughly

awake to its responsibilities and its opportunities for service both to architects as individuals and the country as a whole.

I am very happy that I have been given the opportunity to serve with the official family of the Institute in times like these, and that I shall at least have some part in what should be the beginning of a very eventful period in architectural history of America.

Newly Elected Secretary American Institute of Architects

The architects of Ohio have just cause to be proud of the recognition of the profession in this State by the election of Alexander C. Robinson III of Cleveland as secretary, by the delegates in attendance at the 75th Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Architects, held in Cincinnati, May 26, 27 and 28, 1943. This election is for a period of one year, and a more propitious year has never faced the profession, to give the new secretary and his fellow-officers ample opportunity to exercise all their talents and energies to the utmost.

To the Point

Walter Hagedohm, president of the State Association of California Architects, writes:

"In knowledge there is power!

"In order to become part of a profession, or to benefit therefrom, it is necessary to give something of yourself to it. You must give it your time, your energy and your support. Francis Bacon said, 'I hold every man a debtor to his profession; from the which as men of course do seek to receive countenance and profit, so ought they of duty to endeavor themselves by way of amends be a help and ornament thereunto.'

Ashton Heads A. I. A.

(Continued from page 5)

Ten years ago he organized the Utah Building and Construction Congress and has been elected presidence since.

Statement of Raymond J. Ashton

"Never in the history of the country did the architect face a greater oppor-Manufacturers, tunity than today. business, school districts, cities, counties, and states face the future aware of the mistakes of the past, whether these mistakes be the result of poor planning, the utter lack of it, whether they come from failure to comprehend the demands of well-integrated society, or a balanced consideration of public wellbeing. The time for planning the future is now. Delay will lead to postwar catastrophe which will dim the memory of the years 1930 to 1933.

"In our cities blighted areas are recognized and they must be reclaimed. Property owners and financial institutions have become conscious of the relation of their individual holdings to the whole community plan and operation. Every city, town and roadside is crying for attention, and demanding correction of its mistakes. Lost values must be restored. The overall structure must, through wise planning, be improved. No community is too small or too large to not have felt this need for change. Public officials are less disposed to shrink from attention to these problems. The day of building for the immediate present only is past. Serious and universal concern is being given to the future. The safety and welfare of the future will be directly proportional to this advance planning. To this end every architect in America and every manufacturer of building materials has dedicated his efforts.

"New patterns and new materials will appear, but they will be only incidental to the solution of the major problem—the providing of better and more complete accommodations for an integrated society."

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The New Secretary

Alexander C. Robinson III comes from Pittsburgh, originally, but has practiced architecture for the past twenty-three years in Cleveland in the office of Garfield, Harris, Robinson & Schafer. He has been a partner since 1926. His technical education began at Princeton and was followed by the course in architecture at Columbia. Since going to Cleveland he has taken part and has been a leader in many public and semipublic activities. He has been a member of the County Planning Commission for nine years, president of the local Chapter of the A.I.A. twice, and treasurer for one term, president of the Cleveland Humane Society, a trustee of Western Reserve University and Cleveland School of Art. He is also a trustee of the Music School Settlement. These are interesting activities and indicate a widespread public spirit, which is an essential for an architect, and especially for one of the Institute officers.

Ingham Honored

For his "distinct contribution to the profession of architecture," Charles T. Ingham, of Pittsburgh, was signally honored by the Institute at the closing session.

After serving the past nine years as Institute secretary, Ingham had declined to be a candidate for re-election. He joined the Institute in 1913 and in 1932 was made a Fellow.

Ingham is senior member of the Pittsburgh firm of Ingham & Boyd. He studied architecture at the University of Pennsylvania and worked as a draftsman with Peabody & Stearns, of Boston, and Rutan & Russell of Pittsburgh.

Among the work of his firm are buildings for the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, Frick Training School for Teachers, Administration Building for the Board of Public Education, Gymnasium and Dining Hall for Shady Side Academy, Waverly Presbyterian Church, Chatham Village, and the Buhl Planetarium, all of Pittsburgh.

The firm of Ingham & Boyd have become best known nationally for its Chatham Village, a successful demonstration of the principles of large scale, long term, rental investment, offering a quality of community maintenance and social security not otherwise to be had.

Mr. Ingham is a past-president of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Honorary Corresponding member of the Royal Institute of British Architects, ex-president of the Pittsburgh Architectural Club, member of Pennsylvania Board of Examiners of Architects, and Director of the Pittsburgh Housing Association.

Our Thanks to Walter McCornack

Walter R. MacCornack, Dean of the School of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, was re-elected vice-president.

MacCornack, formerly a prominent architect of Cleveland, represents a rare combination of the practical and the academic. Having served for several years as Institute vice-president, he had been named chairman of its post-war reconstruction committee. His friends had urged that he become a candidate for president, but this he declined to do because of his great interest in the important subject of his committee. His work had been so thoroughly done that it was natural that this topic be made the keynote of the convention.

His report formed the basis of the chief session of the convention, as well as for open discussion at other sessions. The chief objects of the post-war reconstruction committee are stated as being not in the direction of issuing a

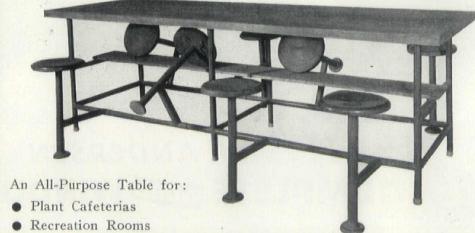
statement on any and all the subjects representing the details of a program but rather to organize the Institute, chapter by chapter, to take part in a vigorous attack on the rebuilding program immediately after the annual meeting, with action covering a very wide field, from actual planning to a suggested program of education, including public schools, universities and colleges.—(Courtesy Michigan Society Bulletin.)

Nelson J. Bell Dies Suddenly

Nelson J. Bell, prominent local consulting engineer, died recently at his residence, 760 Kenilworth Ave., Dayton. His death followed a sudden illness while at work in his office in the Third National Building.

A native of Dayton, Bell was a graduate of Steele High School and Cornell University. He was a member of the Board of Zoning Appeals for fourteen years, and had been active in the affairs of the Engineers' Club for many years. He was associated for many years as structural engineer for the architectural firm of Schenck & Williams.





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AFFORD POOR WINDOWS

Architects in Army Air Corps (Continued from page 6)

problem with which architecturally trained men working in conjunction with engineers were well qualified by training and experience to thoroughly master.

The program was hurriedly assembled and work was soon under way with the crying need for construction foremost in the minds of the men charged with the responsibility of providing test laboratories, wind tunnels, administration buildings and site improvement necessary to the furtherance of aircraft development and experimentation. Construction activities followed. and more advanced uses to which the buildings were to be put required a further expansion in the administrative and field operations of the office, adding to the already large force of technically trained personnel.

The "defense" building program was well under way at the event of Pearl Harbor, but under the exigencies of war steps had to be taken to further hurry the program to a usable completion, as more and more construction work was added. At this time Selective Service requirements were taking men for the yet more important job of meeting our enemy on the battlefield, and it was necessary to expand the work of design to include the employment of private architectural firms so that construction activities would go forward with the utmost speed. Architectural firms of outstanding experience were called into consultation with the technicians of the Engineer Corps and were responsible for many of the fine and complete structures now in prominence on the terrain at the Fields.

Many, many more than the usual number of conferences were necessary to obtain all the specific requirements and special needs (which changed as the battles raged) to develop a program for the Army Air Corps. These conferences, of course, had to take due cognizance of particular methods and means of the Engineer Corps.

In many instances, when the completed plans and specifications are received, new and more advanced requirements are necessary to make the buildings function properly. Further developments and studies are completed by the Engineer Corps' staff, which includes many architects, so that bids may be taken for the work and construction started.

As the program gains momentum, still more developments make further revisions and alterations necessary to satisfactorily comply with the demands of the Air Corps for buildings and equipment to carry forward their experimental work in full conformity with the most recent advances of aircraft standards.

This work is handled by other trained architectural and engineering personnel who co-ordinate the work of processing changes so as not to cause undue delays, and to see that contract requirements are met and equitable adjustments are properly negotiated.

One of the outstanding contributions the architectural profession has given to the entire program has been the study of the requirements of the Air Corps and the development of a master plan for all areas of Wright and Patterson Fields and the Air Service Command area, wherein certain functions and tests are grouped in proper relationship to one another, so that construction of new buildings are within the group of operations to which they are related, rather than on some available strip of ground at some isolated point. In this connection, plans are being formulated to convert certain buildings to different uses so that group operations may be more successfully employed. This master planning is a long-range program and will require considerable time to properly co-ordinate the various units, but it is outstanding in eliminating scattered and isolated construction of units so possible under the stress and emotional unstability created during a time of war.

When the clouds of battle have subsided and the last of the aircraft equipment has been returned from the war-torn front, Dayton and the Nation will feel proud and grateful that many casualties were averted, that the air victories were decisive, that the most modern of aerial combat equipment brought about an unconditional surrender of the enemy due to the experimental activities conducted at the local air fields. The architect and the construction engineer's efforts will be rewarded in the satisfaction gained in knowing that the basis for all the experimental work was sound structures, well designed and correlated to each other. They will be proud that their part was in the vision and foresight necessary to develop a plan

that helped to provide the right environment so that aeronautical engineers and technicians were able to do such an admirable job.

Annual Meeting Architects' Society of Ohio

For the past several years the profession of architecture has been fast absorbing the vital potentialities and advantages of unity. Many events effecting individuals, groups, states, nations, and in fact all existing humanity have each added fuel to the fire that has been burning the architects' house of extreme individualism, egotism and self-sufficiency, so that today the vast majority of the profession believe, without reservations of any kind, in the axiom "United we can and will win."

Every clear thinking and unbiased writer of today emphasizes the fact that we must not neglect to plan for peace, as we so sadly neglected to plan for war; that even now it is almost too late to start the plans for "the way of life" for which our sons, brothers, fathers and husbands are giving their lives.

By virtue of their basic training, education and experience the architects are particularly well qualified and equipped to take the lead in almost all planning programs. As each of the six local groups into which the state membership is divided, have started active post-war planning committees, it is quite proper and even necessary that the efforts of these groups be brought together for comparison and co-ordination, so as to be made to properly fit into the larger programs of the state and nation.

For this purpose the Architects' Society of Ohio will hold a one-day meeting early in October in Columbus, to which each group will be expected to present not only their own programs, but to offer suggestions and recommendations for the larger programs. The time and place of this proposed meeting will be established as soon as possible and proper notification sent to the entire membership. Suggestions for this meeting will be gladly received by the members of the Executive Board.

BUY WAR BONDS and STAMPS

Architects' Society of Ohio

For more than thirty years the architects of Ohio have found it desirable to have some sort of a State organization. The Ohio State Association of Architects with representative officers and directors from the six Institute Chapters was functioning before World War I. The official roster at that time contained such names as Chubb (Sec'y)-Columbus, Schenck-Dayton, Steinkamp -Cincinnati, Langdon-Toledo, McCornack-Cleveland, and from time to time names of many other worthies who were willing to back up their belief "that in unity there is strength" with their time, energy and resources.

There was no doubt in the minds of these men of the need of an organization then. There was no doubt of this need in the minds of the architects, from all parts of the State, who worked together during the '27 to '32 period to put registration for architects in effect in Ohio. The events of the past ten years, during which period the present Architects' Society of Ohio became a reality, have further clearly demonstrated the urgent need for a Statewide closely knit organization.

Certainly "Unification" is still one of the major objectives of the State Society and the Institute, but regardless of the fine results in increased A.I.A. memberships, such as the 211 percent Chapter in Columbus, resulting from the outstanding efforts of our former Kentucky Colonel Director, this goal has not been attained in Ohio. The situation is not considered as discouraging and efforts towards unification can be expected to continue at even a greater pace.

The need for a State organization is greater now than ever before, and each Section should continue to function more aggressively and co-operatively to keep the Architects' Society of Ohio a live, going institution. Such a state association is the only possible kind of a working organization that the architects can have to accomplish the many specific and important jobs that must be done.

And your only answer to inquiries from your fellow architects is "certainly we still have the Architects' Society of Ohio, and it is still functioning for the good of every architect in many ways. Just think what we could accomplish if 1,200 members would pay their annual State dues!"

If you haven't paid your dues, why not send it in? It will help.

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MID-WAR REFLECTIONS

by
MAX G. MERCER
Dayton Member Editorial Board

There is a good deal of talk about "Architecture for Democracy," "Post-War Planning," "City Planning," "Urban Redevelopment," and so forth. It is a healthy sign. But the chances for the realization of real architecture for democracy may be largely muffed unless more of us get busy and acquaint ourselves with the significant trends of our times. For example, interest alone among architects in the able report on post-war reconstruction by the vice-president of AIA, Walter McCornack, is not sufficient to develop the leadership necessary to insure adequate planning now. Also the AIA meeting failed to come to the aid of the National Resources Planning Board, then fighting for its life before Congress. If we do not like the kind of planning done by the NRPB, let us originate a better planning agency, for, as architects, we know that unless planning is done NOW, our unemployed will again rake leaves and eke out their "bread and oleo" on other boondoggling jobs.

Today, architectural practice is, in general, non-existent, but when the war ends it will resume in an unprecedented flood, for a short time at least. Although there is no place in a wartime economy for many architects, this is surely no excuse for failure to use our spare time to acquaint ourselves with the new social and economic trends and the needs of our people. Our aim should be to be better prepared; to be more thoughtfully aware of our changing society so that our work -when the time comes-will be more realistic and more idealistic, in the sense that it is more consciously devoted to the public welfare. We should remember that lack of attention to the idealists at the end of the last war lost us the peace. Those few architects, planners and housers who are now trying to direct our thinking to the kind of planning a healthy democracy needs to sustain it, cannot all be dismissed by thoughtful architects as idealists and dreamers. The point is that unless enough of us come to understand the implications of the present trends and public demands toward modern planning; proper consideration of the need for conservation of natural resources; proper relationships in the correlation of our work with the planner and engineer; the understanding of industrialization of building, and how to work with the Government—we shall find ourselves back to speculative building in all its old glory.

That this speculative and unplanned building of our cities results in overdeveloped suburban areas in expensive gridiron patterns; in the mixture of ugly tenement districts and business buildings; in arterial highways with their conglomeration of residences and commerical structures that run through the city without regard to residential areas, and that blight has set in, is well known to most of us. It is impossible for us to begin rebuilding our cities now. It will be impossible and undesirable to rebuild them overnight when the war is over. But as architects it is important-yes, vital-that we acquaint ourselves with the facts in regard to the subject if we expect to have a major role in their rebuilding.

Whether or not we rebuild our cities when the war is over, vast public housing projects will be built in many cities-Republican or New Deal, it doesn't matter-but they will be rebuilt. Kenneth Reid, in "Reflections on the Convention," in the June issue of "Pencil Points," in commenting on the new AIA president, Raymond Ashton's advice to "Stop talking about your Government and talk to it," had this to say: "Applied with sincerity and genuine devotion to the public welfare, this policy will have the support of most architects. We hope it will be carried through with wise discrimination between good bureau activity and bad, and not become a blanket condemnation based on generalized thinking. (It seems to us infinitely more important that the architecture be intelligent than that it shall be produced under any particular kind of set-up, public or pri-This view seems to be the most intelligent and logical for us as architects and for the general wel-

There has been a good deal of progress in prefabrication, both site and factory, during this war. How are we going to employ this new method?

We shall eventually learn that the discipline of prefabrication is a stimulus to improved design. But we should help direct its development, and learn that its true purpose is to transfer from the field to shop as large a proportion of the work as can be effectively and economically assembled in advance. But who is going to build these prefabricated houses? Can we safely ignore this new field?

There are several schools of thought in regard to proper architectural practice: (1) The very aesthetic architect who cannot be bothered with being specific about much aside from the profile of the cornice, etc; (2) the "master-builder" architect who works directly with the sub-contractors; (3) those architects who believe in practice by a large staff, embracing all types of engineering, etc. Perhaps we should get together on what type of practice will produce the best architecture and contribute most to our Society?

Are the best buildings the ones designed for function, to be lived in, or to be photographed?

The whole point is that it behooves thinking architects and their organizations to acquaint themselves with the best in contemporary social, economic, industrial, and architectural thought. It is necessary that we do this NOW, so that when the war ends we can do the kind of architecture, provide the physical environment, that will help establish the kind of peace necessary for the growth and development of real democracy.

Attention, Readers!

The Ohio Architects is the official journal of the Architects Society of Ohio. As such, it should represent to the fullest extent the kind of publication that most of the Buckeye architects like to read. The only way the Editorial Board can know the wishes of the readers is for the readers to advise frankly their opinions.

As a basis for such expressions, compare one issue with another issue. What do you like in one and what don't you like in another? Send in examples of what you think would be material for the OHIO ARCHITECT to use. Suggestions as to subject matter, long or short articles and possible sources of such material would be most helpful.—EDITOR-IN-CHIEF.

Rambling Thoughts

(Continued from page 9) Signor Priteca's suite); and, finally, on the train journey back, Winslow's (Troy) and Chandler's (Boston) exciting dreams about education and how to help our great profession to achieve real greatness.

Now, back to post-war planning. Really, it's time we did a little bit of organizing. Groups here and groups there have their value, but their effectiveness is limited. If we are soon to progress from words to action, we have to get together on a nation-wide basis; we have to know what we stand for, and we have to agree on what we propose to achieve.

In my humble opinion we must have a National Department of Planning, just as we have a Department of the Interior or a Department of Agriculture. We must have a CABINET POST FOR TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING.

Do not shrug your shoulders and sigh, Oh, more regimentation. Not at all. But organization, yes, authority and vision emanating from a well-functioning life-giving center. It is childish to resist organization through fear of regimentation or to claim that authority is necessarily anti-democratic. (Why should it be? Look at one superbly democratic performance, our TVA!) We need not fear uniformity. On the contrary, it's less rather than more uniformity which we shall get. Today every one of our cities looks like every other one. All bad things look alike, while good solutions are never uniform. Obviously, regions and cities differ, will always differ, must be allowed to differ. A national department of planning is the only agency which can make all the parts fit together, and make them fit into our nation's economic life, and encourage and stimulate every community to do its part.

(There are still so many things I don't fathom. At a meeting of our AIA Post-War Construction Committee I asked if a resolution urging the House and the Senate to appropriate funds for the NRPB was in order. This was in May. I was told no. Now, apparently, the NRPB, which has done valuable work on a nation-wide basis at a cost of roughly \$1,000,000 a year, is being liquidated. Do I hear us

Next, we must have functioning state and regional planning boards. Next.

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city planning commissions; not just voluntary and honorary, but boards and commissions with funds and authority to do their job.

Each community, each city doing its own work, finding its own needs and planning its own life pattern. instead of all these patterns remaining isolated solutions which might remain fragments of precarious value, with the help of and through that National Department of Planning they are made to take their places in the regional or the state solutions, and these, in turn, to take theirs in the nation's planning program, all of them timed properly to ensure a balanced activity of the building industry, i. e., employment.

Today there are many city planning commissions in existence. Some good, and many not so good. Practically all of them are powerless to do the job which has gone begging for years, and NOW must be done. Obviously, a national department of planning, headed by a secretary for Town and Country Planning, would give them new life and the required strength.

I hope that you will note that my suggestion is not particularly original. In Great Britain, when organization became a matter of life or death, a Ministry of Works and Planning was established. It tried at first to be at the same time a sort of Building Industry's WPB and a housing and a planning center. It was reprganized

early this year, with Lord Portal at the head of a Ministry of Works and Planning, and Mr. W. S. Morrison at the head of a separate Ministry of Town and Country Planning with powers know that Mr. Morrison is 48 years to control land and planning. (Incidentally you might be interested to

Our nation is justly proud of its record achievement in the field of produc-Though huge and complicated, that job of planning which I hope we shall undertake and do well should be child's play compared to what we have succeeded in doing in terms of tanks, ships, planes, shells and guns. Mr. Donald Nelson expressed thoughts to the NAM which apply just as well to post-war planning as they do to

"Nobody's private advantage can stand in the way. We must use imagination and initiative. . . .

"Don't measure this war in terms of money, or even in terms of time. Measure it in terms of American lives. . . .

"In the end we shall have a full knowledge of what we can really do. And I submit to you in all seriousness that the knowledge will show us that nothing-literally nothing-that we really want to do is going to be impossible for us."

Let us get going!

Time Is Fast Running Out

The architectural profession is in the dangerous position of facing a large program of government subsidized construction, much of which might be done by government agencies, unless they become active in working out a program for reconstruction by private capital. The report of the Committee on Post-War Reconstruction made to the Annual Meeting in Cincinnati in May is absolutely worthless and may be considered a waste of time, unless the Chapters of the American Institute of Architects organize locally to carry out the program outlined in that report. It is not the function of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee to interfere with local problems. The report is general in character and must be applied to fit local conditions. The architects have been crying out against centralization of government in Washington and would therefore be in an untenable position to attempt to dictate the policies of reconstruction from a central committee. From time to time, the committee will issue appeals to the Chapters and State Societies to organize local groups as outlined in the report.

The committee is glad of the request for a statement to be printed in the OHIO ARCHITECT, since it gives it the opportunity to appeal to the Chapters of Ohio to proceed with the organizations of powerful local groups interested in reconstruction. In spite of the fact that this country will be saddled with a staggering debt after the war is over, we shall be forced to face a program of subsidized construction to relieve unemployment, unless private industry is organized to carry on intensive construction work. There is no excuse in this country for private industry to fail in this task. It may be one of the new frontiers that we are facing in this rather turbulent world. We have faith in the architectural profession, since we have seen it stagger through the years of depression with undiminished courage and faith that architecture will always exist. However, we must help ourselves and the report of the Post-War Reconstruction Committee presents an opportunity.

WALTER R. MACCORNACK, Chairman, A.I.A. Committee on Post-War Reconstruction.

A MESSAGE FROM THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR A. I. A.

by CHARLES F. CELLARIUS

The recent inspiring convention of the American Institute of Architects brought out very forcibly the progress being made toward unification of the profession. Ohio is proud that its State Society was one of the first to become affiliated with the Institute. That number of affiliated State Societies has grown to 22.

More impressive still is the speed with which members of the State Associations are also becoming individual members of the Institute. In the Great Lakes District, of which Ohio is a part, there were 338 Institute members in September of 1941. In April of 1943 this number had grown to 616, an increase of nearly 100 per cent in less than two years. This trend exists throughout the country, but Ohio and the Great Lakes District show more rapid progress than any other sections.

The meeting of the State Societies in connection with the Institute Convention was likewise very encouraging. Several States, including Ohio, forcefully urged even faster unification of all practicing architects into one organization.



CHAS. F. CELLARIUS

The main task is the bringing of all Registered Architects actively into a professional organization. The recent liberal attitude of the Institute in urging the extension of invitations to Institute membership to all architects of good repute, who have a legal right to practice in their State, is apparently solving that problem. This was af-

firmed again in June, 1943, by the Board of Directors, who resolved "that the ideal of unification is that the American Institute of Architects be the national organization of all qualified architects of good character in the United States, formed into State Associtations consisting of one or more chapters of Corporate Members of the Institute." This is the clearest statement of the Institute's ideal that has yet been expressed. It leaves a State organization which will continue to be needed for legislative purposes, and it leaves the chapters as at present constituted.

The recent meeting of State Societies recommended a committee to be directed to communicate with chapters and State Associations and to receive their individual suggestions and plans. This resolution has been given to the Committee on Unification, where it is hoped that, with the clear expression of the Board, a formula can be arrived at that will meet conditions of 48 States.

Since the Convention the Board of Directors has appointed Julian Oberwarth, former Regional Director of our Great Lakes District, as chairman of the Membership Committee of the Institute, and hopes that he can forward in the Institute generally, the rapid amalgamation that is occurring in Ohio and the Great Lakes District.

CHARLES F. CELLARIUS, Regional Dir., Great Lakes Dist., AIA.

POST-WAR

by

JOSEPH HENRY ORENDORFF

Regional Project Planner, Region V, Federal Public Housing Authority, Cleveland

Opinions glibly stated over a cocktail are more elusive when one is seated before the dry sobriety of a blank sheet of paper. It started with the question, "What do you think the form of architecture will be like after the war?" -and wandered through the force of history-the death and birth of civilization-why architectural ruins-planning-the profession and practice of architecture-and ended on the corner of 9th and Euclid. The answer was so easy in the bitterness of the recent Congressional attitude toward the National Resources Planning Bureau and the increasing manifestations of militant reaction expressed in news items and periodicals. "It will be just like the forms before the war."

The public is being conditioned against change-they are being convinced that what they want is not the modern boxy things, but the Cape Cod Cottage type of home-appealing to the American tradition-working the old nostalgia theme-keep it just as it was when I left-I don't want one single thing changed-that's what I'm fighting for! Read the glowing but vague terms of the better-living-of-the-future advertisements. There is that note of uncertainty as to the character of the future, but all are certain the advertiser's product is going to create that future. True, they admit that, while man cannot build today, he can plan for tomorrow the house in which he will live in peace and security-provided he uses their material. Architects are quoted as being in agreement on the superior materials for post-war construction. The real-estate journals state: "Post-war building will be evolutionary, not revolutionary; "The building industry may be able to incorporate the new advances into homes to be built with the coming of peace if the war ends gradually." Here are the disciples of reaction at work, paradoxically prating about progress, yet resisting all change. Their position is expressed best in that distressing British military report seen so often in the early days of the war: "We

advanced to predetermined positions . . . to the rear." Reactionaries are the result of the substitution of mental habits for thinking. The rules of action were learned long ago, and safe from change by new ideas, t'e pattern is automatically repeated.

The conditioning of the public to want a Cape Cod Cottage in Ohio, Montana, or most any State, is not too difficult. The war drags tirelessly on—the first burst of enthusiasm cannot be sustained indefinitely—the results of its sacrifices are not too evident—it wants peace. Peace is something remembered, and hence in the past; its symbol is the quiet flower-bordered cottage.

Granting that a small group of men might be able to release a backward force in a limited area for a brief period, this reactionary triumph must be short-lived. There is a major force at work, the result of many forces released at remote times and places, which is constantly surging forward with the irresistibility of nature. The force of cause and effect—the force of history.

In less critical times this paradoxical urging of a return to progress might pass unnoticed, but we are witnessing a change in history that essentially is as significant as the fall of the Roman Empire. History book statements suddenly come to life, and the ruins of a Parthenon, a Roman Forum or Babylonian cities dug from the sands, attain a new significance. We are aware of a close kinship. We, too, are experiencing the death of a civilization. How can a civilization die? Life continues-the same people, the same buildings remain. There is no sudden wiping out of the people and things and a substitution of new. It is not people and things that are wiped out, but the idea and a new idea is substituted-a new idea which, given the opportunity, has the power of transforming life practically overnight. We are aware of this power in action in Russia and Germany-in our own country we have seen the transforming power of the idea of war.

Every civilization is the result of one predominant idea which gives it unity. It conditions the spiritual, mental and physical needs of the individual and the group. A society creates its own distinctive forms out of the attempt to satisfy these needs. society remains simple, the forms are simple, because the needs are simple. As society develops it becomes more complex, and the simpler forms no longer satisfy-more complex forms are needed. Further social development brings greater refinements in the forms themselves, and, eventually, when the forms can be modified no further, ornamentation is employed. A stage is reached when a fine balance is achieved between the basic forms and the re-The civilization has fining ornament. attained its full ripening; but in this ripening there are the seeds of decay. Ornament begins to take precedence over basic forms until it dominates and finally becomes an end in itself. The predominant idea loses its significance in a maze of external formalities which eventually acquire more importance than the idea. The civilization is well along the decline-death is near. Since life is constantly a "becoming," this death paradoxically a birth of a new civilization which was gestating during the decline of the old.

We have observed this paying of lip service, with the blindness of habit, to forms that long since have lost We are aware, their significance. too, of the indifference, the cynicism and the eventual contempt for even We have been conthe formalities. scious of the need for a new faitha new idea that would integrate life. Efforts have been made to force the acceptance of a new faith, but it can not be forced; it must develop naturally from man's own needs. idea, however, is already gestating. The search for new forms in music, sculpture, painting, architecture, religion, politics, economics-every phase of human activity-are signs of its struggle for birth. We have not been completely cognizant of the significance of this search for new forms.

Sensibilities attuned to over-ornamented surface refinements are shocked by their bold harshness. This shock is disquieting—it arouses a vague sense of fear—fear of change. Instead of accepting change as the necessary condition of life it is resisted. Two op-

(Continued on page 24)

You, Too, Can Become Famous and Have Your Designs Printed in the Architectural Magazines, Says Allen, Laughing Like Crazy



ROGER ALLEN

"You could have knocked me over with a feather bed when I found out what the Policy Committee of the 'Bulletin' really was," said Roger Allen today in an uncopyrighted interview with the second bartender from the left in Ye Olde College Rumme Shoppe, attached to good old Grand Rapids Sub-Normal, Allen's Alma Mutter. (She keeps muttering that it's a dirty lie, and she never even heard of Allen.)

"Naturally, when they tell me I'm on the Policy Committee, I assume the Society has finally got smart and is about to start selling policy tickets on a huge scale, making big money and seeing the world. But it turns out I am supposed to tell Tal Hughes what to put in the 'Bulletin.' This is a laugh, as he already knows what to put in the 'Bulletin.' In fact, Hughes is my favorite editor. He is doing all right, so the hell with the Policy Committee.

"What I am now interested in is a clever scheme for getting the 'Forum,' 'Pencil Points' and the 'Architectural Record' to print photographs of every single building I design from there on in. You may think this is impossible. Little do you wot.

"First, naturally, I change my name. 'Roger Allen' has a plain old Anglo-Saxon ring to it that nauseates editors of high-class architectural magazines. It would never do for Mr.

Reid, who has made 'Pencil Points' hard too; for Mr. Meyers, publisher of the 'Forum,' a fellow who had the effrontery to tell me a letter I wrote him is Not Funny; and Mr. Stowell, of the 'Record.' On second thought, I am going to let Mr. Stowell live for awhile, on account of the fact that he had the good sense to publish, in the 'Record' for June, an article by Dean Joseph Hudnut that is one of the few articles I have read in the last couple of years on the subject of architecture that had any real sense to it. Consequently, Stowell will be remanded in custody of the Marshal.

"First, I change my name. The next thing you know, I am the celebrated refugee Kurt von Slapnoodle, a slightly-blighted Bulgar, the world's No. 1 exponent of Design by the Noodule System. You know what a module is, don't you? Well, a noodule is merely a module made out of macaroni. Why grope with Gropius when you can noodle with Slapnoodle? What a slogan!

"Then, I design a house. All is bustle and confusion. The bustle belongs to my assistant, a Miss O'Paque. Naturally, you are all agog to know what this house looks like, and, if you will stand back a little and take your elbow out of my glass, I will tell you my astounding discovery.

"Anybody can make a house out of orange crates. This is old stuff; so is making your house revolve on a pivot; so is the house that looks like a caboose; so are houses that are mostly glass. According to the magazines, the more glass the merrier. What is the one familiar shape that gives you 100 per cent glass area? The bottle, natu-Hence the Slapnoodle-O'Paque house is erected inside an outer shell and the outer shell consists of an over-sized bottle, 24 feet long and 12 feet in diameter. I am not going to tell you any more details, as Gus Langius or Ken Black, who are watching me like hawks, would hurry off to a glass-blower and start infringing on my patents; but if you are on any Lake Michigan beach this summer and an cut-sized bottle is washed up on shore, look a little out. It may be the Chateau Slapnoodle.

"The first photos of the Slapnoodle opus will be accompanied by a critical article written by the celebrated Latvian author, Downta Getcha. (I got this lovely name from the old song; you remember, 'I'll be Downto Getcha in a taxi, honey; better be ready 'bout half-past eight.')

Pal, it can't miss."

-Weekly Bulletin

Editor's Note—"Kurt Van Slapnoodle" Architect (?), Refugee, Toastmaster—alias Roger Allen—is in St. Mary's Hospital at Grand Rapids, Mich., recovering from an appendectomy which took place in August.

Hospitality Plus

The architects of Cincinnati maintained the reputation of the Queen City of the West for hospitality during the 75th Annual Meeting of the American Institute of Architects, held in Cincinnati the last week of May. In the face of all the difficulties and the prohibitions of the war and priorities everything was carried out in tip-top fashion.

The management of the Netherland Plaza Hotel also deserve honorable mention for the gracious and efficient manner in which all the exceptionally fine facilities of this fine hotel were placed at the disposal of all the various groups that were a part of this meeting.

Every one wants to hear about the architects who are in the various branches of the Federal service. Almost every architect has a relative or very close business associate somewhere around the globe, serving in the Army-Navy-Marines-Sea Bees or the Auxilaries. The Ohio Architect would like to give a little recognition to these individuals, separated as most of them are from all their ties of home and business.

The name, rank and organization of each individual so serving, or the same information concerning a son or daughter, with perhaps a few words as to what they are doing would be most acceptable. We have been requested to co-operate in a nation-wide effort to prepare a list showing just what the architects are doing towards the war effort. We know that the profession in Ohio is very well represented both on the home front and on the many, many battle fronts, where the stars and stripes wave today. The sun is always shining on a Buckeye soldier. Help us to tell the world about it. The best time to do this important little job is now.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S RULING INVALI-DATES PART OF STATE BUILDING CODE

Need For a New Code Emphasized

The recent session of the Ohio Legislature failed to consider favorably Senate Bill 14 providing "for the appointment of a building code commission which shall study the various sections of the General Code applying to or effecting the construction of buildings within the State . . ."

Our failure to secure the passage of this much-needed legislation is chargeable to the entire profession who did not lend their support of it or otherwise indicate to their respective legislators their desire for its passage.

While the Legislature was in session, the question of the jurisdiction of the Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Factory and Building Inspection over "residential buildings" was carried to the office of the Attorney-General of Ohio for an official ruling, and excerpts from the ruling are given here for the benefit of all.

Mr. Herbert's opinion is further evidence of the urgent need for the revision of our State Code and perhaps now the profession will become sufficiently awakened to appoint a competent legislative committee and support its efforts to secure passage of the necessary remedial legislation. It is more than a one-man undertaking.

The entire ruling of the Hon. Thomas J. Herbert, Attorney-General for the State of Ohio, covers almost seven legal size pages. It is number 6058 and is dated Columbus, May 7, 1943. Space does not permit the reprinting of the entire document even though it would be very interesting and pertinent reading for all the architects at this time.

That the entire group of statutes that go to make up what we refer to as our State Building Code reaches back into antiquity is evidenced by the references of the Attorney-General to such dates as 1891, 1892 and 1910. Section 2480 was established by the Legislature in 1941.

The following excerpts are limited to questions and the answers to same:

"In view of the foregoing cited sections of the General Code of the State of Ohio, I desire a formal, official opinion on the following questions:

Q. First. Under Sec. 2480 of the General Code, what is meant by residential buildings, and under such section do the words 'residential buildings' include apartment houses?

- A. 1. Under Section 2480, General Code, the words "residential buildings" embrace all buildings designed for occupancy as residences and include apartment houses.
- Q. Second. If a residential building is not an apartment house, then, under Section 2480, when does a building cease to be a residential one and become an apartment building?
- A. 2. In view of the answer to the foregoing question, no answer is necessary to your second question.
- Q. Third. If the jurisdiction of the Board of County Commissioners of any county, where building regulations have been adopted by virtue of Section 2480, does include apartment houses, then what is the jurisdiction of the district inspectors of workshops and factories, in the inspection of apartment houses, under Section 989 and 1002 of the General Code, and what is the jurisdiction of the chief inspector of workshops and factories, under Sections 1002-1 and 1028-1?
- A. 3. The jurisdiction of the Board of County Commissioners of any county where building regulations have been adopted, pursuant to Section 2480, General Code, covers all residential buildings, as above defined, but does not exclude the concurrent jurisdiction of the chief inspector of workshops and factories in the inspection of tenement and apartment houses under Sections 989, 996, 1000, 1002-1 and 1028-1, General Code, nor does it affect or limit his power to require such alterations or additions in said buildings as are contemplated by the statutes aforesaid
- Q. Fourth. If the jurisdiction of the Board of County Commissioners of any county, where building regulations have been adopted, includes residential buildings in excess of two-family dwelling houses, then what is the jurisdiction of the chief of the division of workshops and factories, under the Ohio Building Code Act, which relates to and provides for the construction, erection or alteration of dwelling houses which accommodate, or will accommodate, more than two families?

A. 4. The term "public building," as used in Section 12600-296, General Code, does not include tenement houses or apartment houses.

- Q. Fifth. If the jurisdiction of the Board of County Commissioners of any county, where building regulations have been adopted, includes buildings used for residential purposes in excess of two-family dwellings, is it necessary to submit plans and specifications for approval by the chief of workshops and factories, under the provisions of Section 12600-296, General Code?"
- A. 5. An owner proposing to erect a residential building, including a tenement or apartment house, is not required to submit plans and specifications for the same to the chief of the division of workshops, factories and public buildings, and such officer has no jurisdiction, under Section 12600-296, General Code, over the construction of such buildings.

Cleveland Architects Re-elect Francis K. Draz President

At the recent annual meeting of the Cleveland Chapter of the American Institute of Architects the following officers were elected: Francis K. Draz, president; J. Byers Hays, vice-president; C. C. Masterson, secretary; C. F. Guenther, treasurer, and Robert W. Dickerson, a member of the executive committee.

Draz is a graduate of Carnegie Institute of Technology and attended the Ecole de Beaux Arts in Paris. He has been in partnership with Adolph Scholl for the last fourteen years.

The entire membership of the Cleveland Chapter of the American Institute of Architects today was named to the Chapter's Post-war Planning Committee by President Francis K. Draz.

I expect every member of the Chapter to take part in this work," Draz said. "It is the first time in the history of the organization when the entire Chapter has undertaken such an important piece of work.

"J. Byers Hays will be chairman and will be helped by a steering committee, including E. G. Conrad, R. W. Dickerson, C. T. Masterson, W. G. Teare and George S. Yoinovich."

The committee will co-operate with all post-war study groups. The Chapter earlier was invited to participate in Mayor Lausche's Advisory Committee to the City Planning Commission, the new general committee on post-war planning of the building industry, and will be active in other aspects of post-war reconstruction.

PRODUCERS' COUNCIL APPROVES DIMEN-SIONAL CO-ORDINATION PROJECT

The Producers' Council has approved the proposed American Standard Basis for co-ordination of dimensions of building materials and equipment now pending before Sectional Committee A62 of the American Standards Associationand authorized its managing director, J. W. Follin, a member of the Executive Committee of that project, to report the Council's approval at the committee meeting on July 9 in New York. If the proposed American Standard receives the endorsement of the sectional committee it will be disseminated widely in the construction industry for review. When adopted as an American Standard, it will provide the basis upon which manufacturers of separate lines of building materials and equipment may propose and adopt standard sizes for their respective materials and equipment conforming to the co-ordination basis.

This project was gotten under way about five years ago, jointly sponsored by the American Institute of Architects and the Council under regular ASA procedure. It is one of the most fundamental proposals ever to be undertaken by the entire industry, and immediate acceptance is hoped for as a means of improving post-war building. Members of the Council are agreed that the development of standard modular products, or materials and equipment co-ordinated in size with each other, should be encouraged to be made available for the spurt in building activity anticipated to start immediately following the end of the war. building material manufacturers have switched to war products for the duration, and there could be no more convenient time to provide economically for production of co-ordinated sizes. This forward advance in building construction is being considered by architects now completing working drawings and specifications to be available immediately at the end of the war. Architects for such projects in New York City have the assurance from the structural clay products manufacturers that their products will be available in modular sizes for post-war building projects.

The proposed American Standard basis for co-ordination provides that different branches of manufacture shall prepare application standards supplementing the basic standard, establishing co-ordinated sizes and dimensions. Work is well along on a proposal which will establish the basis for masonry materials and dimensions as well as modular sizes of various structural clay products which the Structural Clay Products Institute is fostering. Application studies have been started for other types of masonry units, wood and metal windows and doors and other materials. The proposed standard is sufficiently broad in its scope to include all the conventional types of materials as well as newer products and equipment partially or wholly prefabricated. A major factor in the success of one of the large prefabricated house companies has been careful application of the principal modular co-ordination of parts.

A report on the progress of this project was made at the annual meeting of the Producers' Council, at Cincinnati, on May 26. Endorsement by the sub-committee on modular products of the Council's post-war technical committee was the basis of the Council's approval of the proposed standard. Grateful acknowledgement was made to the Modular Service Association, established as a non-profit organization by the family of the late Albert F. Bemis of Boston for the technical services rendered to the ASA Committee A62, which are facilitating the rapid progress of the project.

The proposed American Standard Basis for co-ordination submitted to the ASA Sectional Committee embodies the use of a standard module of four inches. Its use is recommended to architects and engineers for all three dimensions of plans for buildings and to producers of building materials and equipment in determining the dimensions of their stock building products. This makes possible the assembly of modular products to the dimensions of modular plans in an orderly manner.

Contingent upon approval by the Sectional Committee of the proposed American Standard Basis, its provisions and a supporting memorandum will be disseminated in the construction industry, and copies may be had by application to the Producers' Council, Inc., 815 15th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Post-War

(Continued from page 21)

posing forces result—the force of ideas and the force of reaction against ideas. The ensuing conflict inevitably ends in violence. The force of reaction must be swept away before the force of the new idea can prevail. The present war is probably the final phase of the act of death and birth of civilization. When it is finished we shall be aware of the rejection of the old forms and the revitalizing force of the new idea.

What is this new idea that may kindle a faith which will have the power of unifying men and activating a new civilization? Might it not be the belief that "the common good is prior to, and higher than, the good of any individual and of every private interest"? Is this a new idea? Is there not in this a familiar tone of Christian precepts and of our democratic Constitution? Perhaps, after all, it is merely the reaffirmation of an old faith. The reactionary might say you can't change human nature nor cure the selfishness of man. It is not proposed to cure man's selfishness but to utilize it. Here is an opportunity for infinite selfishness where the richest rewards are for those who serve the common good best.

What forms will result from this new faith? Since the predominant idea will be the service rendered to the group and not to individuals, can we not foresee that it will, in general, take a collective form? Planning on a national and regional basis will be essential; a radical departure from a society, hostile to the idea, whose existence depends upon "free enterprise" exploiting the opportunities presented by unplanned chaos, for the individual gain.

Opportunities for architects will be limited only by their capabilities. A whole new world needs planning. The profession of architecture should acquire a new dignity. It will no longer be necessary for the architect to preach piously in meetings of architectural groups about the dangers which beset the profession.

Let us take stock of our individual and group capabilities!—re-orientate our vision—think of the community, of the community's needs, and plan for the common good. Then our efforts will bring into achievement a better design for a better way of living for a group of people—and one's self.



It's Captain C. Merrill Barber, now of the Engineering Corps, doing his tsuff in England. Look for a message from Chas. M. (yes, the C stands for Charles) in the next edition of the Ohio Architect.

It's also Captain Holli Shope, now in the U.S. Artillery doing his stuff way down under.

The architects and his many other friends in Cleveland will be pleased to learn that Mr. Franz C. Warner is back in Ohio after a sojourn in

for his health, and his present address is Lake Shore Hotel, Ashtabula, where he would be very glad to hear from his acquaintances in Northeastern Ohio.

Architect H. Keith Creager seems to be doing a lot of running around on his job with Goodyear Aircraft, but finally found his way back to Akron.

Vernon Redding and Associates, architects, have moved their office from the Walpark Building to 76 Penn Avenue, Mansfield, O.

Who is in the Service

Dog-on, I hate to miss visitors, especially the very-seldom-come kind, so a note from N. S. Zajack and J. W. Everhard from far away Cleveland that they tried to see me on May 1st was sad news. Alibi—I was in Toledo attending a meeting of the Board of Examiners. Try again, N. S. and J. W.

Another visitor was Architect Marcus Daniel Walters, No. 1274, from Springfield, who came in to tell us about his two years sojourn at Beckley, W. Va. Walters belongs to the Ohio State Class of '34 and the Brown Hall-Room 103 Class of '40.

Fall Examination For Architects

The fall examination for architects will be conducted by the State Board of Examiners of Architects in Columbus, on September 20-24, 1943. Persons contemplating taking this examination should communicate with the Board as soon as possible.

It's Now Lieut. Sheblessy

Walter F. Sheblessy, former President of the Cincinnati Chapter, Architects' Society of Ohio, has recently re-



ceived a Junior Lieutenant's Commission from the U.S. Navy. He is expecting a call soon to leave for an undisclosed point.

Good News

It is very good news to be able to announce the election of the following Ohio architects to corporate in the American Institute of Architects, with the Chapters to which they have been assigned.

George M. Foulks, of Canton, Eastern Ohio. Charles H. Stark, Jr., of Toledo, Toledo Chapter. Erskine A. Hart, of Dayton, Walter G. Schaeffer of Dayton, and William Ray Young of Dayton, all to the Dayton Chapter.

It will be noted that the increase in membership noted above is in the three smallest chapters in the State. Perhaps Cleveland, Cincinnati and Columbus Chapters will have something to report in the next issue of the Ohio Architect.

BUY WAR BONDS and STAMPS

Fellows

A recent report of elections of the A.I.A. Jury of Fellows included the names of two very worthy Buckeyes. As the complete citations are not available at this time, the names will be mentioned only briefly with the promise of all the information next time.

In the case of Mr. Charles A. Langdon, of Toledo, this honor has been due for a long time and it is fortunate that his health has permitted him to remain tion of his long service for the profeswith us to receive this belated recognision. This is mentioned as a friendly reminder to future juries "That time waits on no man."

As for our new Regional Director, Charles F. Cellarius of Cincinnati, his election as a fellow is prompt recognition for a lot of good work well done, with a lot of time left for him to earn (which of course is not possible) this reward the second time, as he will no doubt continue to work as hard or even harder in the future than in the pas.

Along the Old Maumee

Architect John N. Richards reports as follows. The Toledo Chapter, A.I.A., and the Toledo Section A.S.O., met in our back yard last evening Thursday, July 22nd. Twenty-five were there and it was quite a "spirited" (see later re-Frank Sohn, of the marks-Ed.). Libbey-Owens-Ford, who has traveled around the country and has had access to several City Plan Commissions, talked on "City Planning." He strongly urged that all members become thoroughly acquainted with the Master Plan of Toledo which was prepared by Harlan Bartholomew several years ago. Sohn did a good job in inspiring the boys "to go work." In fact, so much so that we decided to have weekly meetings of the "delve" into the details of the "whys and wherefores" of Toledo's Master Plan. Study it, bring it up to date, and, working as a group, make recommendations for the future. It has, I might state, been accurately followed during the years regarding any major changes.

Free beer (spirits) and a "jaunt" through our house followed, guided by my very able wife. Question by the Ed. In a house built by a man who walked backwards, was it necessary to "jaunt" backwards?

Note—It is most inspiring to note that a group of architects have at last come to the conclusion that their future is important enough to require them to meet more than once a month to work on their common problems.

Thanks, a Million

While at the fine Annual A.I.A. Meeting in Cincinnati and by other contacts, personal and by mail, we have been advised that the Convention issue of the OHIO ARCHITECT was an especially good number. We (pardon us please) knew that of course, but it is grand to have these pats on the back once in a while. Credit of course should be placed where it belongs, so at the next meeting of the Cincinnati Chapter, we are suggesting that the Chairman call upon Prof. Earnest Pickering and George Roth to stand and take a bow. The President, Standish Meacham, and his new (new at that time) secretary, John Becker, should also be allowed to stand and share in the ovation, as they both put in their bit for the O.A. if and whenever their other convention duties permitted. A certain Irish publisher by the name of Geo. E. O'Brien gave the whole issue a lot of what it takes, at the proper time and place, much to the relief of the Editor and the Committee.

Architects Re-Plan London

A master plan for the post-war rebuilding of London on a completely new pattern has been prepared by that city's Modern Architectural Research Group, according to reports to the Urban Land Institute. The plan even in blueprint stage will be profoundly interesting to American city-builders, because it is the first detailed proposal for the planned deaggregation of a great metropolitan city to be advanced to meet a practical situation in which such a new pattern could be applied.

London rose substantially on its old foundations after its last great catas-Instead of trophe, the fire of 1666. doing that again, the new master plan proposes to substitute for the old network of small streets and for the city's inner suburban arrangement a series of parallel self-contained urban units extending in a north and south direction from the Thames, business section and industries grouped in a pleasant and convenient relationship. The plan calls for each city-within-acity to be approximately half a mile wide and fifteen miles long.

Intervening spaces a half-mile wide are proposed. The parallel urban units and the wide intervening spaces would be traversed by traffic arteries, with

industrial, commercial and civic activities grouped near the main arteries. Dwellings would be served by secondary arteries.

A basic purpose of the plan is to decrease the population density of the area within a fifteen-mile radius of the center of London. In this area 900,000 houses were built in the twenty years preceding the war.

This would be planned decentralization, not destructive decentralization. If the plan can be followed, London may take the lead in breaking up the amorphic quality which has come to be the curse of our great cities and may be able to reintroduce the human qualities of neighborhood life, while retaining the advantages possible only to a metropolis.

Government surveyors are examining air-raid ruins in the center of London as a possible site for a great central airport. It would be expected to serve as a terminal for airlines to near-oy European capitals and as feeders to larger outlying air terminals for the world-wide air transportation service that may be anticipated after the war. Engineers, it is said, report that a sufficient area is available if a safe approach for aircraft can be assured by proper building restrictions in the areas immediately surrounding the proposed central airport.

INDUSTRIAL CAMOUFLAGE MANUAL.—By Konrad F. Wittmann. Reinhold Publishing Corporation, 330 W. 42nd Street, New York. \$4.00.

There is probably no subject to which architects have given more attention recently than the question of camouflage. Several of our members have gone to Ft. Belvoir to learn the way of camouflage in war.

For the benefit of the practioners who stay home and wish to assist their industrial clients, the Reinhold Publishing Corporation has a manual by Konrad F. Wittmann, which is certainly up to the minute, covers the subject in a most thorough and useful manner.

In a field requiring so much originality and resourcefulness, this book should assist every architect in giving his industrial clients the best possible service.

There is every reason to hope that much of the ingenuity exercised and the new ideas developed may bring something worth while for peacetime pursuits.

PLUMBING PRACTICE AND DESIGN.—By Svend Plum. Vol. I. John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 440 Fourth Ave., New York. \$4.50.

It is quite out of the question for an architect to try to remember all the facts pertaining to the many things he must know and use in connection with the general practice of architecture. He must therefore try to have a complete library of the best books that will give him the information he needs.

A book that will readily fit into such a library is Plumbing Practice an Design by Svend Plum, just off the press, with all the latest facts and information on the subject in which every architect should try to improve his knowledge and vocabulary. The subject matter is complete and well presented, including many illustrations and diagrams so essential for the proper presentation of plumbing information to the client and to the client and to the client and to the contractors. This book would make valuable reading for some of the time that can not be otherwise utilized at this time.



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